WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1.   An information processing method in an information processing apparatus for requesting a print order from a print management apparatus via the Internet, comprising:

a print data forming step of forming print data by using a printer driver which can set print set information corresponding to a plurality of printers on the basis of a printer information description file;

a print order forming step of forming the print order on the basis of the formed print data and the print set information set by the printer driver; and

an access requesting step of promoting activation of a Web browser and requesting an access to the print management apparatus which can communicate via the Internet.

2.   A method according to claim 1, further comprising a printer information obtaining step of obtaining the printer information description file from said print management apparatus via the Internet, and wherein in said print data forming step, a user interface for instructing a print setting is formed on the basis of a print setting described in the obtained printer information description file, and the print set information is set in accordance with instructed contents.

3. A method according to claim 1, further
comprising a shop information obtaining step of
obtaining a shop information file describing attributes
of a shop for printing and outputting the print order
5   from said print management apparatus via the Internet,
and wherein in said print order forming step, the
print order to designate a shop name included in the
obtained shop information file is formed.

10   4. A method according to claim 1, further
comprising:
an input step of, when the print order is
transmitted to said print management apparatus,
inputting an uploading instruction so that the print
15   order is transmitted to said print management apparatus
and managed without being print-processed; and
an uploading step of, when said uploading
instruction is inputted, uploading said print order to
said print management apparatus via the Internet.

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5. A method according to claim 4, further
comprising a print ordering step of transmitting a
print ordering request for one or more print orders
which were designated by the user and should be print-
25   ordered among the print orders uploaded in said print
management apparatus to said print management apparatus
via the Internet.

6. A method according to claim 5, further comprising:

a list obtaining step of accessing said print management apparatus via the Internet and obtaining an order list of the print orders uploaded in said print management apparatus; and

a preview requesting step of requesting a preview display of the print order instructed by the user from the obtained order list of the print orders.

7. A memory medium which stores a print control program which can be executed by an information processing apparatus which requests a print order from a print management apparatus via the Internet, wherein said print control program comprises:

a print data forming step of forming print data by using a printer driver which can set print set information corresponding to a plurality of printers on the basis of a printer information description file;

a print order forming step of forming the print order on the basis of the formed print data and the print set information set by the printer driver; and

an access requesting step of promoting activation of a Web browser and requesting an access to the print management apparatus which can communicate via the Internet.

8. A medium according to claim 7, wherein

said print control program further comprises a

printer information obtaining step of obtaining the

printer information description file from said print

5 management apparatus via the Internet,

and in said print data forming step, a user

interface for instructing a print setting is formed on

the basis of a print setting described in the obtained

printer information description file, and the print set

10 information is set in accordance with instructed

contents.

9. A medium according to claim 7, wherein

said print control program further comprises a

15 shop information obtaining step of obtaining a shop

information file describing attributes of a shop for

printing and outputting the print order from said print

management apparatus via the Internet,

and in said print order forming step, the print

20 order to designate a shop name included in the obtained

shop information file is formed.

10. A medium according to claim 7, wherein

said print control program further comprises:

25 an input step of, when the print order is

transmitted to said print management apparatus,

inputting an uploading instruction so that the print

order is transmitted to said print management apparatus

and managed without being print-processed; and

an uploading step of, when said uploading

instruction is inputted, uploading said print order to

5   said print management apparatus via the Internet.

11.   A medium according to claim 10, wherein said

print control program further comprises a print

ordering step of transmitting a print ordering request

10   for one or more print orders which were designated by

the user and should be print-ordered among the print

orders uploaded in said print management apparatus to

said print management apparatus via the Internet.

15   12.   A medium according to claim 10, wherein said

print control program further comprises:

a list obtaining step of accessing said print

management apparatus via the Internet and obtaining an

order list of the print orders uploaded in said print

20   management apparatus; and

a preview requesting step of requesting a preview

display of the print order instructed by the user from

the obtained order list of the print orders.

25   13.   A print control program which can be executed

by an information processing apparatus which requests a

print order from a print management apparatus via the

Internet, comprising:

a print data forming step of forming print data by using a printer driver which can set print set information corresponding to a plurality of printers on the basis of a printer information description file;

a print order forming step of forming the print order on the basis of the formed print data and the print set information set by the printer driver; and

an access requesting step of promoting activation of a Web browser and requesting an access to the print management apparatus which can communicate via the Internet.

14. A program according to claim 13, further comprising a printer information obtaining step of obtaining the printer information description file from said print management apparatus via the Internet,

and wherein said program allows said information processing apparatus to execute said print data forming step so as to form a user interface for instructing a print setting on the basis of a print setting described in the obtained printer information description file and set the print set information in accordance with instructed contents.

15. A program according to claim 14, further comprising a shop information obtaining step of

obtaining a shop information file describing attributes of a shop for printing and outputting the print order from said print management apparatus via the Internet,

and wherein said program allows said information processing apparatus to execute said print order forming step so as to form the print order to designate a shop name included in the obtained shop information file.

16. A program according to claim 13, further comprising:

an input step of, when the print order is transmitted to said print management apparatus, inputting an uploading instruction so that the print order is transmitted to said print management apparatus and managed without being print-processed; and

an uploading step of, when said uploading instruction is inputted, uploading said print order to said print management apparatus via the Internet.

17. A program according to claim 16, wherein said program allows said information processing apparatus to further execute a print ordering step of transmitting a print ordering request for one or more print orders which were designated by the user and should be print-ordered among the print orders uploaded in said print management apparatus to said print management apparatus

via the Internet.

18. A program according to claim 16, further comprising:

5   a list obtaining step of accessing said print management apparatus via the Internet and obtaining an order list of the print orders uploaded in said print management apparatus; and

a preview requesting step of requesting a preview
10   display of the print order instructed by the user from the obtained order list of the print orders.

19. An information processing apparatus for requesting a print order from a print management
15   apparatus via the Internet, comprising:

print data forming means for forming print data by using a printer driver which can set print set information corresponding to a plurality of printers on the basis of a printer information description file;
20   print order forming means for forming the print order on the basis of the formed print data and the print set information set by the printer driver; and

access requesting means for promoting activation of a Web browser and requesting an access to the print
25   management apparatus which can communicate via the Internet.

20. A print management method in a print
management apparatus which receives a request for a
print order from a client via the Internet, comprising:

a printer information transmitting step of
5   transmitting a printer information description file
describing print set information corresponding to a
plurality of printers to said client via the Internet
in accordance with an obtaining request from the
client;

10   a data converting step of data-converting print
data described by a page description language included
in the print order which is transmitted from the client
into a printer description language file as a format
which does not depend on a printer of a shop; and

15   a print order forming step of forming a shop print
order for requesting the shop to print on the basis of
print set information which is included in said print
order and designates a print setting and said data-
converted printer description language file.

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21. A method according to claim 20, further
comprising:

a print order managing step of managing said shop
print order in correspondence to user identification
25   information of the client without performing a printing
process; and

a transmission control step of controlling so as

to transmit the designated shop print order to the shop
which should execute the printing process in accordance
with a print ordering instruction from the client.

5   22. A method according to claim 21, further
comprising:

a searching step of searching the print order to
be returned as an order list of the print orders among
the print orders managed in said print order managing
10   step in accordance with a request from the client with
reference to said user identification information of
said client; and

an order list returning step of returning the
order list including said searched print order to the
15   client who requested the order list.

23. A method according to claim 20, further
comprising:

a preview image forming step of forming a preview
20   image by data-converting an image of said data-
converted printer description language file; and

a returning step of returning the formed preview
image to said client via the Internet in accordance
with a preview request from the client.

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24. A memory medium which stores a print control
program which can be executed by a print management

apparatus which receives a request for a print order from a client via the Internet, wherein said print control program comprises:

a printer information transmitting step of

5   transmitting a printer information description file describing print set information corresponding to a plurality of printers to said client via the Internet in accordance with an obtaining request from the client;

10   a data converting step of data-converting print data described by a page description language included in the print order which is transmitted from the client into a printer description language file as a format which does not depend on a printer of a shop; and

15   a print order forming step of forming a shop print order for requesting the shop to print on the basis of print set information which is included in said print order and designates a print setting and said data-converted printer description language file.

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25. A medium according to claim 24, wherein said print control program further comprises:

a print order managing step of managing said shop print order in correspondence to user identification

25   information of the client without performing a printing process; and

a transmission control step of controlling so as

to transmit the designated shop print order to the shop
which should execute the printing process in accordance
with a print ordering instruction from the client.

5   26.   A medium according to claim 25, wherein said
print control program further comprises:
          a searching step of searching the print order to
be returned as an order list of the print orders from
the print orders managed in said print order managing
10   step in accordance with a request from the client with
reference to said user identification information of
said client; and
          an order list returning step of returning the
order list including said searched print order to the
15   client who requested the order list.

          27.   A medium according to claim 24, wherein said
print control program further comprises:
          a preview image forming step of forming a preview
20   image by data-converting an image of said data-
converted printer description language file; and
          a returning step of returning the formed preview
image to said client via the Internet in accordance
with a preview request from the client.

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          28.   A print control program which can be executed
by a print management apparatus which receives a

request for a print order from a client via the

Internet, comprising:

a printer information transmitting step of

transmitting a printer information description file

5   describing print set information corresponding to a

plurality of printers to said client via the Internet

in accordance with an obtaining request from the

client;

a data converting step of data-converting print

10   data described by a page description language included

in the print order which is transmitted from the client

into a printer description language file as a format

which does not depend on a printer of a shop; and

a print order forming step of forming a shop print

15   order for requesting the shop to print on the basis of

print set information which is included in said print

order and designates a print setting and said data-

converted printer description language file.

20   29. A program according to claim 28, wherein said

program allows said print management apparatus to

further execute:

a print order managing step of managing said shop

print order in correspondence to user identification

25   information of the client without performing a printing

process; and

a transmission control step of controlling so as

to transmit the designated shop print order to the shop which should execute the printing process in accordance with a print ordering instruction from the client.

5   30.   A program according to claim 29, further comprising:

a searching step of searching the print order to be returned as an order list of the print orders from the print orders managed in said print order managing

10   step in accordance with a request from the client with reference to said user identification information of said client; and

an order list returning step of returning the order list including said searched print order to the

15   client who requested the order list.

31.   A program according to claim 28, wherein said program allows said print management apparatus to further execute:

20   a preview image forming step of forming a preview image by data-converting an image of said data-converted printer description language file; and

a returning step of returning the formed preview image to said client via the Internet in accordance

25   with a preview request from the client.

32.   A print management apparatus which receives a

request for a print order from a client via the
Internet, comprising:

printer information transmitting means for
transmitting a printer information description file

5   describing print set information corresponding to a
plurality of printers to said client via the Internet
in accordance with an obtaining request from the
client;

data converting means for data-converting print

10   data described by a page description language included
in the print order which is transmitted from the client
into a printer description language file as a format
which does not depend on a printer of a shop; and

print order forming means for forming a shop print

15   order for requesting the shop to print on the basis of
print set information which is included in said print
order and designates a print setting and said data-
converted printer description language file.